

NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 June 2019 in the Newington Room, Newington Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Debbie Haigh (Chair), Cllr Tony Mould (Vice Chairman), Cllr Dean Coles, Cllr Steve Godmon, Cllr Stephen Harvey, Cllr Elaine Jackson and Cllr Richard Palmer (Ward Member); and Mrs Wendy Licence (Clerk).

Also present were KCCllr Mike Whiting, Ward member Alan Horton and ten members of the public.

1. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr Haigh said there are three vacancies on the Council and there has been one application but unfortunately it has not been possible to meet with the candidate.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Eric Layer (holiday); apology accepted.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were declared.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2019

Cllr Haigh **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting; **SECONDED** by Cllr Palmer: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. Cllr Haigh duly signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Oak Tree at Recreation Ground

Cllr Haigh reported that the tree work at the Recreation Ground has been completed and a letter of thanks received from the resident. Cllr Haigh thanked everyone who helped with this issue.

Parking problems

Cllr Palmer said he had met with Jeff Kitson (Parking Services Manager) and the Parking Enforcement Team will make evening visits and regular visits at school drop-off and collection times. If vehicles are parked on yellow lines they can issue fines. Cllr Palmer said that he, KCCllr Whiting and SBCllr Horton had met with the school regarding the land adjacent to the school.

Risk Assessment

Cllr Haigh said that she will update the Risk Assessment for the July meeting.

Insurance

Cllr Haigh informed Members that the Finance Working Group had looked at the insurance and agreed a three-year Long Term Agreement with Hiscox through Came & Co as this was significantly cheaper.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The meeting was adjourned for the Public Time.

#1- A resident from Eden Meadow expressed concern at the developer consultation for forty-five houses as they had been told there would be no further development for five years.

Cllr Harvey said every authority has to have a five-year housing supply and Swale cannot show it has a five-year supply. The Local Plan is up for review. This proposal is outside the built-up area and not in the local Plan, it is best not to respond to the consultation.

#2- A resident said Eden Meadow is a fresh site and the road would not cope with the extra traffic.

Cllr Harvey said the developer has opted for adoption standard road, the road has been built so that KCC could adopt it if necessary and here they would use part of the development.

Cllr Haigh said the Parish Council wants to hear the views of residents and represent them. There has been a Design Panel Review meeting held with Swale Officers. The Parish Council can only put observations concerning material planning issues and will discuss the proposal openly when a planning application has been submitted. Anyone who responds to the survey must also put objections into Swale Borough Council when the application is lodged. Do not raise a petition but respond individually.

KCCllr Whiting said developers have consultations and then use the feedback to address resident's concerns. Do not give the developer sight of your concerns as it gives them time to address this.

Cllr Harvey said the Parish Council would probably hold a separate meeting for a development of this size.

The meeting was reconvened.

7. VISITORS

i. Borough Councillors

SBCllr Horton said Swale Borough Council has a 4.6 year housing supply at the moment and that it is likely to go up to five years in two years. SBCllr Horton said that he was concerned that the development is not just forty houses but the Design Review Panel talked about a number of flats.

SBCllr Horton reported that he and SBCllr Palmer, as Ward Members, have a right to speak at Swale Planning Committee meetings and will raise material considerations.

SBCllr Horton reported that he and SBCllr Palmer had visited the school for a Clean Air Initiative Day organised by Swale Borough Council. The children looked at the zig zag lines and parents waiting in cars with engines on either for air conditioning on hot days or heat during the winter. KCCllr Whiting has met with the school to open up the parking and has also met with Gordon Henderson MP and discussed the parking outside the school.

SBCllr Horton spoke about the enforcement action against the travellers in Spade Lane by Swale Borough Council.

SBCllr Horton said he has grant money for local community organisations.

Cllr Haigh thanked SBCllr Horton for his report and for attending.

SBCllr Palmer reported that he has been discussing issues with the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group following patients being discharged with no care package.

SBCllr Palmer said he had reported fly tipping in Newington, fly tipping is becoming a major concern as sometimes roads are blocked.

Residents have raised concerns about nuisance bikes.

SBCllr Palmer said that he is dealing with a housing matter and Swale have issued an improvement notice.

Three properties flooded in Church Lane as a result of recent heavy rain.

SBCllr Palmer said he had reported the missing sign on the A2 to KCC; KCC said no one had removed it but they will replace it; the missing sign has been reported to the Police. The overgrown hedges and verges have been reported to KCC.

SBCllr Palmer said he has grant money for local community organisations.

Cllr Haigh thanked SBCllr Palmer for his report.

ii. County Councillor

KCCllr Whiting said that there is £200,000 in the budget to clear pavements and this can be reported online. Advice regarding hedges is on KCCllr Whiting's Facebook page, most hedges belong to private landowners who must check for birds before cutting back the hedges.

KCCllr Whiting said £250,000 has been allocated to help increase prosecutions against fly tippers and that he will be meeting with the Police to discuss the issue. Residents are urged to always use a licenced waste disposal contractor or they risk being fined if their waste is fly tipped.

Cllr Jackson said the statistics for fly tipping have increased in the last six months, the Parish Council did challenge the charges at tips, have you monitored this?

KCCllr Whiting said the matter is being monitored and will be reviewed up to the end of May. One issue is that the District Councils record fly tipping in different ways. Residents can use the Country Eye app to report fly tipping.

Cllr Jackson said enforcement is happening but one issue is that people do not know what is free.

KCCllr Whiting said there has been a charge for tyres for many years and KCC is monitoring the problem.

KCCllr Whiting said KCC Highways is a consultee in planning and has no powers to stop developments.

Cllr Harvey said a consultation took place on Paradise Farm, the Parish Council asked for an extension but had no response. Please can we have an explanation.

ACTION: Clerk to forward emails to KCCllr Whiting.

Cllr Haigh thanked KCCllr Whiting for his report and for attending.

Cllr Whiting left the meeting.

8. PLANNING

i. To receive an update

Application: 19/502244/FULL Sittingbourne & Milton Regis Golf Club, Wormdale Hill, Newington ME9 7PX

Proposal: Proposed new vehicular access to north car park and modification of existing access to south car park. Modification of existing north car park access restricting use to pedestrian/golf karts to improve highways safety. Modification improvements to existing service access to clubhouse.

Cllr Harvey informed Members that due to deadline for comments, the Planning Committee agreed the following response: Councillors have considered the application and have no comment to make save that neighbour's comments be taken into account.

Application: 19/501514/FULL Delucy House 2 Blaxland Grange Newington ME9 7FG

Proposal: Erection of a first floor side extension

Cllr Harvey reported to Councillors that this application has been permitted.

Application: 19/501671/FULL Throwley,, Keycol Hill, Bobbing, ME9 8NA

Proposal: Erection of a new garage/carriage house at the front of the property

Cllr informed Members the application has been permitted

Application: 19/501805/FULL The Vallance, Callaways Lane, Newington ME9 7LU

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension, alterations to the existing adjoining single storey rear projection roof. Conversion of existing integral garage into habitable space, along with internal alterations and changes to fenestration (Revised scheme to 18/501887/FULL)

Cllr Harvey reported that this application has been permitted

Application: 18/506309/FULL Cromas, Callaways Lane, Newington ME9 7LX

Proposal: Construction of a detached, single residential dwelling (resubmission of 17/503997/FULL).

Cllr Harvey reported to Councillors that this application has been permitted and the new driveway will go onto the bridleway.

Application: 19/500029/FULL Land Rear Of 132 High Street, Newington ME9 7JH
Proposal: Erection of a 4 bedroom detached dwelling and associated carport/garage.
Cllr Harvey informed Members that a decision is yet to be made.

Application: 18/502531/FULL 61 Playstool Road, Newington ME9 7NL
Proposal: Erection of a first floor rear extension and loft extension with front dormer (Retrospective works to 16/503414/FULL).
Cllr Harvey informed Councillors that a decision is yet to be made.

Application: 17/504813/FULL Car Wash, 67 High Street, Newington ME9 7JJ
Proposal: Part change of use from car wash to residential for one studio
Cllr Harvey informed Members that a decision is yet to be made.

Application: MC/19/0188 Orchard Kennels, Meresborough Road, Rainham
Proposal: Outline planning application with some matters reserved (access, appearance and scale) for the development of up to 130 residential dwellings with associated parking and open space
Cllr Harvey informed Members that a decision is yet to be made.

Application: 18/505060/ADJ (Alternative reference: 18/504836/EIOUT) Binbury Park, Detling Hill, Detling, Maidstone, Kent
Proposal: Adjoining Authority Consultation from Maidstone Borough Council for Outline application (with all matters reserved apart from access) for the erection of up to 1,750 dwellings including affordable housing, 46,000 sq.m of commercial space, a hotel, a local centre, a new primary school, a park and ride facility, strategic highways improvements including new Kent Showground access/egress, accesses/roads including a new bridleway bridge, parking, associated open space, landscaping, services, and Sustainable Drainage Systems. In addition the proposals include a publicly-accessible country park including the Binbury Motte and Bailey Castle Scheduled Ancient Monument.
Cllr Harvey informed Councillors that a decision is yet to be made.

Application 18/502834/FULL Lodge Farm, Old House Lane, Hartlip ME9 &SN
Proposal: Removal of condition 2 of application reference SW/98/0796 (Agricultural dwelling) PINS reference APP/V2255/W/19/3221958
Cllr Harvey informed Members that the Appeal is yet to be determined.

Application: 17/504342/FULL Newington Working Mens Club
Proposal: Retrospective demolition of former Working Mens Club and erection of 9no. dwellings and 1no. maisonette together with carports for garaging of cars
Status: application permitted 12 December 2017
NB recent document – February 2018 re air quality and external details
NB Application: 16/506166/FULL Newington Working Mens Club, High Street ME9 7JL
Proposal: Variation of Condition 2 and removal of Condition 11 of application 17/504342/FULL (Retrospective demolition of former Working Mens Club and erection of 9no. dwellings and 1no. maisonette together with carports for garaging of cars (Revised scheme). (Vary Condition 2 to include reference to 'Titan-Sonair' ventilation system to bedrooms and dining room fronting the high street.)
PINS reference: APP/V2255/W/18/3209727
Cllr Harvey said it is expected this matter will be determined by the end of July.

ii. Ref: 19/502364/FULL
Address: 19 Orchard Drive Newington Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7NN

Proposal: Erection of two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.

Councillors considered the application.

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** the Council respond that while the Parish Council has no comments, we expect the Planning Officer to be aware of the land maintained by Swale Borough Council and of the impact on the local amenity; **SECONDED** by Cllr Haigh: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

iii. Community Led Housing Swale

Cllr Harvey said the matter is aspirational not professional and has been discussed in the past. There is a consultation meeting planned. The proposal is a nice idea but there is no funding. Cllr Palmer said a Housing Needs Assessment could be carried out and this would help with new developments.

Cllr Haigh said the last Housing Needs Assessment was carried out in 2008.

ACTION 1: Cllr Haigh to circulate the Housing Needs Assessment.

ACTION 2: Cllr Palmer to contact Swale Borough Council.

iv. M2 Junction 5

Cllr Harvey said the Stockbury roundabout proposal is a highly technical matter.

SBCllr Horton said there is a £20-40,000,000 shortfall to deliver the solution for the A249 Stockbury roundabout. When Highways England has a shortfall, it shelves the plan. There is a public petition to show support for the flyover.

Cllr Mould said this can be included in the Village Voice.

SBCllr Horton left the meeting.

Cllr Haigh thanked Cllr Harvey for his report.

9. AMENITIES COMMITTEEi. To receive the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 18 June and consider the recommendations

Cllr Coles **PROPOSED** to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting; **SECONDED** by Cllr Harvey: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**. Cllr Jackson duly signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

Cllr Jackson said the Committee reviewed the Community Warden report and also the PCSO's report, the PCSO is being asked for specifics. Work on the oak tree has been completed. There was a debate on the hole in the track by the Recreation Ground and whether there is a better resolution.

Cllr Jackson informed members that KCCllr Whiting has agreed to give £1,000 towards the fencing by the zipwire and has offered the friends of Newington Recreation Ground £2,000 towards the zipwire. The Committee is trying to keep the cost of the footpath to the Pavilion and will use the existing footpath from the back of the compound and remove the kissing gate. The Pavilion is in order, Cllr Coles is thanked for his sterling work repairing the chair store ceiling. Consideration was given to the use of the Community Gym Room, it could be another fitness group or another club and will be deliberated when the Parish Council is approached. Quotations are being sought for flooring in the lobby, changing room, toilet and Community Gym Room. The Autumn litter pick will take place on 28 September. The upgrade to the street lights is progressing.

Cllr Haigh thanked Cllr Jackson for her report.

ii. To consider the quotations for fencing

Councillors considered the quotations for fencing.

Cllr Jackson **PROPOSED** to accept the quotation from Maylow Construction Ltd for a ball catcher fence either side of kick wall for £4914 and to remove existing chain link fence and install ball catcher fence behind football/basket ball frame for £1721; **SECONDED** by Cllr Harvey: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

ACTION: Clerk to seek funding from Borough Councillors.

iii. Hole in trackway

Cllr Haigh informed Members that the Rochester Bridge Trust has asked its surveyor to look at the problem and they are going out this week. Further quotations to fill the hole have been requested.

10. WICKHAM TRUSTEE NOMINATION

Cllr Haigh reported that Mr Cliff Curtis has indicated that he is willing to stand again as the Council's nominative trustee.

Councillors **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to appoint Mr Cliff Curtis as the Parish Council's nominative trustee.

11. VILLAGE VOICE AND MEDIA

Cllr Mould said there will be an article on the upgrade of the street lighting; the School has had a good Ofsted inspection; details of the A249 flyover petition will also be included.

12. FINANCEi. Cheque list: to consider invoices for payment

Payee	Expenditure	Amount £	Cheque No.
Profile Business Supplies	Village Voice- June 2019	£60.00	2991
Mrs P Rowe	Litter Picking Recreation Ground & sight check equipment June	£110.00	2992
Mr MJ Marshall	Cemetery and Churchyard maintenance June 2019	£490.00	2993
Ms L Wright <i>For A Heavey</i>	Litter picking June 2019	£280.50	2994
Mrs W Licence	Salary and Expenses	£701.21	2995
Countrywide Grounds Maintenance Ltd	Grounds Maintenance April	£265.00	2996
Countrywide Grounds Maintenance Ltd	Grounds Maintenance May	£265.00	2997
TreeFolk	Tree work	£500.00	2998
Mr A Mould	Expenses- flowers	£15.00	2999

Councillors consider the cheques raised and Cllr Haigh **PROPOSED** the signing of the cheques; **SECONDED** by Cllr Godmon: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Receipts

£20.00	Swans	Pavilion Hire
£40.00	Ms Taylor	Pavilion Hire

ii. To consider electricity renewal terms

Cllr Haigh informed Members that the Finance Working Group has considered the renewal terms from Haven Power.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY** to accept the quotation from Haven Power.

iii. Review of Bank Signatories

Cllr Godmon said the mandate from Nationwide needs to be signed. The change in signatories to the NatWest account has not proved so easy and will be achieved by a letter.

iv. Review of Asset Register

Councillors considered the Asset Register and reviewed the figures and removed items no longer in the Council's possession.

ACTION: Clerk to check with Came & Co regarding changes to insurance premium.

13. CHURCHYARD AND CEMETERY

Cllr Haigh reported the complaint about the Cemetery has been resolved and the complainant has been informed of the action being taken.

14. HIGHWAYS

i. 20's Plenty

Cllr Palmer reported that KCC has changed its policy regarding 20mph speed limits, the speed threshold for implementing schemes without physical traffic calming has been raised from 24mph to 28mph. KCCLr Whiting has agreed to give £1,000 towards traffic surveys. Some roads may not need to be included in the scheme.

Cllr Harvey said there may be help with surveys from the Air Quality Group.

Cllr Coles said that all roads should be included in the scheme. The markings on the speed bumps in Playstool Road need to be refreshed.

Cllr Haigh said there is a scheme of work for the whole of the A2. The Highway Steward needs to be contacted regarding the road markings.

Cllr Harvey **PROPOSED** traffic surveys for Playstool Road, Bull Lane, Wickham Close, Church Lane, Callaways Lane, School Lane and Iwade Road be requested; **SECONDED** by Cllr Coles: **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.

Cllr Haigh thanked Cllr Palmer for his report.

15. STREET LIGHTING

Item covered by Amenities Committee.

ACTION: Clerk to request predicted completion date.

16. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Haigh congratulated the school for achieving a Good Ofsted report.

Cllr Mould said the Schools Federation has won an award and that he will receive the award on behalf of the Federation at a presentation ceremony at Leeds castle.

17. CORRESPONDENCE

1. 14.05.19: Kent County Council details of charging for the disposal of non-household waste materials (soil, rubble, hardcore and plasterboard) at all 18 Kent Household Waste Recycling Centres', which starts on Monday 3 June 2019
2. 16.05.19: MHCLG: "Notes on Neighbourhood Planning"
3. 16.05.19: Planning Reform - Outcome of Government Consultation
4. 16.05.19: Request for information regarding the Footpath between Station Road and Wickham Close
5. 19.05.19: NHG invitation to an open day at the excavated Roman settlement at Watling Place in the village 23 May 2019
6. 20.05.19- Kent Police Rural Liaison Team report
7. 20.05.19- Concern about new street light

8. 21.05.19- Cllr Whiting: details of the Try Angle award
9. 21.05.19- KCC Streetworks: Daytime Closures – Callaways Lane, Newington, Sittingbourne – 10-14 June 2019 *added to website*
10. 21.05.19: resident concerns about motorbikes
11. 22.05.19: copy of resident email to Mike Whiting regarding speeding on A2 at Keycol Hill
12. 23.05.19: Southern Water- Stakeholder Invitation: Working Together to Build a Resilient Water Future for the South East
13. 24.05.19: KCC Leader announcement regarding new household waste site and funding to tackle flytipping
14. 24.05.19: Resident email regarding the memorial bench
15. 24.05.19: copy email from resident to Mike Whiting regarding Callaways Lane road closure
16. 28.05.19: KCC PROW-diversion ZR61
17. 28.05.19: Letter of thanks for new lights in St Mary's View and St Stephen's Close
18. 02.06.19: KCCllr Whiting- weekly pothole report 24.05.19
19. 02.06.19: KALC Councillors Conference 18 July
20. 12.06.19- Office of the Kent Police & Crime Commissioner: Volunteer Scheme
21. 12.06.19- Letter of thanks for work on oak tree from resident
22. 14.06.19: KCCllr Whiting- weekly pothole report 07.06.19
23. 15.06.19- Swale CAB request for grant
24. 19.06.19- KCC Streetworks: Overnight Closure – Church Lane, Newington, Sittingbourne – 9 July 2019 *added to website*
25. 20.06.19- copy of objection to proposed development Eden Meadow
26. 20.06.19- copy comments regarding Eden Meadow
27. 21.06.19- KALC News
28. 21.06.19- request for memorial bench on the green
- 29.06.19- SBC: draft Car Parking Supplementary Planning Document

Request for Memorial Bench

Cllr Jackson said another bench on the green could be inappropriate, there have been concerns regarding flowers on the existing bench.

Cllr Mould said this application is a different situation, the Council could say a bench must be free from flowers.

Cllr Harvey said the friends of Newington Recreation Ground are considering benches at the Recreation Ground. The Parish Council has adopted a standard bench design.

Cllr Haigh said as long as the bench is a standard design, Councillors are agreeable to consider a bench at the Cemetery or Recreation Ground. The Council is not promoting the use of the Village Green and its policy is that flowers and adornments are not left on benches. The specific location needs to be agreed.

ACTION: Clerk to ascertain costs and liaise with the resident.

Swale CAB request for grant

Councillors agreed not to make a grant to the Swale CAB.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Palmer said Parish Councils are now permitted to speak at Swale Planning Committee meetings regarding any applications that affects their parish.

Cllr Mould reported that he believes seven acres of land behind Solna has been sold to a developer, most of the land is an arboretum. And that land has also been sold to Demelza. If Solna is used as access it would be very dangerous at the bottom of the hill.

Cllr Palmer said KCC Highways have concerns about the amount of traffic affecting the A249, Swale is now considering a Local Plan Review and is looking at lowering the number.

Cllr Haigh asked for a volunteer to judge the best Kept Garden Competition.

Cllr Palmer said he will liaise with the Community Warden.

19. LITTER PICKING CONTRACTS

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press were excluded from the meeting during the review of the Litter Pickers' Contracts
Review of Litter Pickers' Contracts

Councillors thanked Mrs Rowe and Mr Heavey for their sterling work and accepted their resignations. The contracts will be put out to tender.

20. STAFFING MATTERS

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press were excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the Clerk's Appraisal
Following an annual appraisal of Outstanding, Councillors agreed the Clerk be awarded pay progression to the NALC new Spinal Column Point 21.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 30 July 2019

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.44pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Chair
30 July 2019